



## Leadership and the Liberal Arts

With Dr. Christopher Perrin

### Lecture 4: Augustine

#### Outline:

##### Saint Augustine's Metaphor of Refining the Gold

- Augustine says to refine the gold.
- Augustine, like Basil, was a professor of rhetoric.
- Augustine also started a monastic community.
- In Augustine's book, *On Christian Doctrine*, he is training pastors about how to be good teachers and preachers.

##### How and what we study?

- Book 2, Chapter 37:
  - He begins with a warning to be cautious about teaching outside of the church.
  - Discriminate sensibly. There are some things in pagan society that you ought to engage.
  - You can study, but not in excess.
  - He says that we can study the Platonist philosophers. We should claim what is consistent with our faith.
  - Rhetoric can be used in service with the gospel.
  - "In order to make better use of them...at God's command," the Hebrews took the gold of the Egyptians.
- Christians take this gold and use it such that knowledge does not puff up.
- These treasures were "dug from the mines of providence."